



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mail Label No.: ER 819975289 US

Date of Mailing: August 12, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313.


Harry Macey

In re Application of:

Nguyen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/828,335

Filing Date: April 5, 2001

Title: MULTIPLE LOOP TISSUE
CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND
METHODS

Examiner: U. Ho

Group Art Unit: 3731

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application, a copy of each of the documents listed on the attached Substitute Form 1449A. Applicants further submit for consideration in the above-identified application, a copy of the Request for Corrected/Reprinted Patent and accompanying appendices, which were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with U.S. Patent No. 6,607,541, which was cited in an Information Disclosure Statement on October 22, 2003. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ Within three months of the application filing date or before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

- ☒ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☒ A fee is required. Authorization to charge the undersigned's deposit account \$180.00 is attached.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Substitute Form 1449A, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

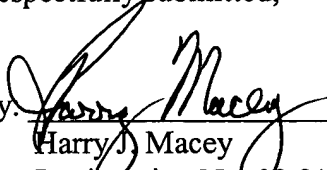
This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the U.S. Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1947 referencing Attorney Docket No. CSI-2015. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

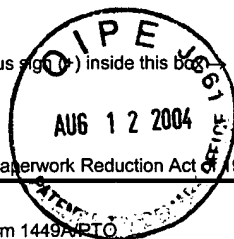
Date: August 12, 2004

By:


Harry J. Macey
Registration No. 32,818

LAW OFFICE OF HARRY J. MACEY
1301 Shoreway Road, Suite 121
Belmont, CA 94002-4106
Telephone: 650.654.9555
Facsimile: 650.654.9554

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box



+

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known	
	Application Number	09/828,335		
	Filing Date	April 5, 2001		
	First Named Inventor	John D. Nguyen		
	Group Art Unit	3731		
	Examiner Name	U. Ho		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number CSI-2015

081204

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, columns, lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1.	4,994,069		Ritchart et al.	02/19/1991	
	2.	5,941,888		Wallace et al.	08/24/1999	
	3.	US2001/0018592 A1		Schaller et al.	08/30/2001	
	4.	US2003/0074012 A1		Nguyen et al.	04/17/2003	
	5.	US2004/0111099 A1		Nguyen et al.	06/10/2004	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-------------------------------	--	----------------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.